

R E M A R K S

The word "apparatus" has been restored to the title, since apparatus claims are being added to the application herein.

This second Preliminary Amendment adds new claims 48 - 84, to afford assured full coverage for important aspects of the invention.

All new recitals introduced to the claims by the present Preliminary Amendment are supported by the original specification, as follows:

The use of gas to supply internal and/or external positive fluid pressure is supported by the disclosure at p. 6, lines 11-14; p. 10, line 31; and original claim 31. The use of nitrogen, air or argon as the gas is supported by the disclosure at p. 18, lines 13-15. A process temperature above 100°C is supported by the disclosure at p. 10, lines 30-31, and a process temperature of about 300°C is supported by the disclosure at p. 16, line 1. The disclosed products (metal/aluminum containers) are "hollow metal/aluminum articles" as recited in the preambles of claims 76 - 84.

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment, and favorable action, are courteously requested.

Respectfully,

Christopher C. Dunham

Christopher C. Dunham
Reg. No. 22,031
Attorney for Applicants
Tel. (212) 278-0400

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Christopher C. Dunham
Christopher C. Dunham, Reg. No. 22,031

Date JUNE 1, 2004